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Message Text

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43
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 TRSE-00 EB-07

COME-00 GSA-01 USIE-00 INT-05 AID-05 IGA-02 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 /070 W
---------- 059233
O R 091540Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4352
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBJFEY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY MASERU

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAG: CPRS, EIND, EINV, ESTC, PFOR, MZ, RH, US
SUBJECT: RHODESIAN CHROM ORE DESTINED FOR US

REF: MAPUTO 214

1. H.S. RUMBELOW, VICE PRESIDENT OF RENNIES CONSOLIDATED, LOCAL SHIPPING AGENT HANDLING THE EXPORTATION OF RHODESIAN CHROME AND FERRO-CHROME DESTINED FOR UNION CARBIDE PLANTS IN THE US, INFORMED CHARGE AFTERNOON OF FEB 9, THAT CHROME BEING HELD BY MOZAMBIQUE AUTHORITIES IN BEIRA AND MAPUTO (REFTEL) HAS NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN PAID FOR BY US COMSIGNEE.

2. RUMBELOW SAID THAT UNION CARBIDZ (USA) AGREED TO PAY ITS
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RHODESIAN SUBSIDIARIES "NINTY PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF THE CARGO

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AGAINST THE PRESENTATION OF NEGTIOTIABLE DOCUMENTS AFTER REPEAT AFTER THE EMBARKATION OF THE CARGO." THE REMAINING TEN PER CENT WOULD BE PAID AFTER THE CARGO REACHED THE US. RUMBELOW INDICATED THAT THE TWO COMPANIES SELLING THE CHROME ARE RHODESIAN CHROME MINES, LTD., AND AFRICAN CHROME MINES, LTD., BOTH HEADQUARTERED IN SALISBURY, RHODESIAN AND BOTH WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARIES OF UNION CARBIDE (USA). FOLLOWING AN "HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY" PHILOSOPHY, RUMBELOW PUT THIS SAME INFORMATION IN A FEB 8 LETTER HE SENT TO THE MOZAMBIUQE PORT AUTHORITIES (CFM). RUMBELOW DID NOT KNOW WHEN PORT AUTHORITIES WOULD REPLY TO THIS LETTER RE-QUESTING PERMISSION TO ALLOW ORE TO BE LOADED.

3. PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF THIS INFORMATION EMBASSY WAS PREPARED TO APPROACH MOZAMBIQUE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO INTERCEDE ON BEHALF OF UNION CARBIDE. OF COURSE, NEW REVELATION THROWS A SPANNER INTO THE WORKS. ACCORDING THE EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE GPRM'S ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE CONFISCATION OF RHODESIAN PROPERTY, ANY GOODS NOT PAID FOR BY CONSIGNEE REMAIN RHODESIAN PROPERTY AND ARE THUS SUDJECT TO CONFISCATION. FACT THAT TWO SELLING COMPANIED ARE WHOLLY-WONED SCIONS OF US PURCHASING COMPANY WILL PROBABLY NOT CARRY MUCH WEIGHT HERE. GPRM LIKELY TO VIEW TWO MINING SIBSIDIARIES AS TWO RHODESIAN COMPANIES, AND UNION CARBIDE (USA) AS ANOTHER INVIDIOUS MULTI-NATIONAL OCTUPUS.

4. EMBASSY NOW PREPARED TO SEND LOW-KEY DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY ASKING ONLY IF MINISTRY CAN GET PORT AUTHORITIES TO GIVE A DEFINITIVE YES OR NO ANSWER ON THE EXPORTATION OF THE CHROME. NOTE WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT ATTEMPT TO PRESS UNION CARBIDE (USA) OWNERSHIP CLAIM. HOWEVER, DUE TO THE SENSITIVITY OF RHODESIAN ISSUE HERE, DEPT GUIDANCE ON WHETHER TO PROCEED EVEN AT THIS LEVEL IS REQUESTED.
CARSTN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CARGO HANDLING, SALES, CHROMIUM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MAPUTO00224
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760089-0216
From: MAPUTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760380/aaaacsuv.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MAPUTO 214
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <05 AUG 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIAN CHROM ORE DESTINED FOR US
TAGS: CPRS, EIND, EINV, ESTC, PFOR, MZ, RH, US, UNION CARBIDE, RENNIES CONSOLIDATED, RHODESIAN CHROME MINES LTD, AFRICAN CHROME MINES LTD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006